

REMARKS

In the response filed June 30, 2003, in this case under 37 CFR 116, (whose entry is requested in the accompanying RCE) it was again submitted that the primary reference, Sano, does not disclose coating compositions comprising a silica sol, as in the claimed invention. As a result, it was requested that the rejections based on Sano be withdrawn.

In reply, the Advisory Action of July 16, 2003, contends that the "applicant did not provide a specific definition of what is considered a silica sol in the specification" and, thus, concludes that "without a more specific definition, the claimed aqueous silica sol merely reads on an aqueous dispersion containing silica particles." Page 2 of the Advisory Action of July 16, 2003.

However, contrary to the statements in the Advisory Action, the specification does indeed provide definitions of a silica sol in terms of its  $\text{SiO}_2/\text{M}_2\text{O}$  mole ratio. See the second full paragraph on page 4 of the specification. Additionally, the claims recite an aqueous silica sol having a specific  $\text{SiO}_2/\text{M}_2\text{O}$  mole ratio. Accordingly, contrary to the contention in the Advisory Action, it is respectfully submitted that the claimed aqueous silica sol does not merely read on an aqueous dispersion containing silica particles, as is allegedly in Sano. It is, thus, submitted that the rejections based on Sano are overcome.

The present RCE is filed to respond to the Advisory Action and to obtain entry of new claims 18-20. As stated in the response and amendment filed June 30, 2003, in this case under 37 CFR 116, new claims 18-20 are substantially the same as claims 1, 13 and 14, respectively, except that they include zinc powder or a zinc

alloy and also recite a silica sol having a particle size in the range of 3 to 100 nm and having a  $\text{SiO}_2/\text{M}_2\text{O}$  mole ratio, where M represents total alkali metal and ammonium ions, of at least 25:1. Support for these claims can be found in the specification, for example, page 4, lines 18-22, page 6 lines 24-32, and page 13 lines 27-29. Sano does not teach or suggest including zinc powder or a zinc alloy.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. E. Parker', written over a horizontal line.

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